Wannamaker Toys, Inc.

1964 Broomhall Pike

Mather Mills, MN 55432

March 1, 2016

Mrs. Cathy Smith, Gifted Resource Teacher

Princess Anne Middle School

2323 Holland Road

Virginia Beach, VA 23453

Dear Mrs. Smith:

It was a pleasure to meet you at the recent gifted education symposium we attended in February at the College of William and Mary. I was very intrigued with your description of your students’ upcoming English project in which they develop board games dealing with various levels of meaning, especially as they relate to suspense and mystery, as well as author’s purpose.

My company, Wannaker Toys, Inc., is interested in producing one of these games. Students will need to write us a formal business letter explaining to us (and of course convincing us) that their game meets these criteria:

1. The game is innovative. This means that it is substantively different from the games already on the market. We cannot simply re-brand a *Monopoly, Stratego*, or *Chutes and Ladders* game with different packaging and call it ours. It has to be original.
2. The game has a purpose. We know that the goal is to win the game, but with what will the players come away from the game? How will that be accomplished? (Perhaps students might want to draw upon their knowledge of author’s purpose and how that is achieved in writing.)
3. What is the organizational structure for the game? How does this help the player understand the purpose of the game? (Students may want to describe how and why the game board is designed as it is.)
4. The game contains suspense and mystery. The players should “know and not know.”

Students may submit pictures as long as they are captioned and relate to the criteria.

We look forward to hearing from your students soon and hope that they will consider our company for the development of their game.

Sincerely,

Devin R. Troy

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Vice President of Product Development

Wannamaker Toys, Inc.—Where the Game is Afoot!